

Torrance, California  
April 27, 1948

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, April 27, 1948, at 7:40 p.m.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Drale, Haggard, Powell and Sherfey. Absent: Councilmen: Jackson.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Powell moved that the Minutes of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held April 20, 1948 be approved as written. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

At 8:41 p.m., Councilman Jackson took his seat at the Council Table.

A communication was read from Chas. E. Conner, Postmaster, calling attention to the inadequate and incorrect house numbering system now in use, particularly in North Torrance. He advised that the Post Office Department is considering additional districts relative to mail delivery through the Torrance Office, and requested that early action be taken to correct the numbering of houses which will insure a more efficient postal service.

In reply to the question of whether the City is under contract with the County to do this house numbering, City Administrator Stevens said that the Engineering Department had adequate facilities for this work. He advised that the numbers on old houses will have to be corrected, but that numbers in new sections are in accordance with the County system.

Councilman Haggard moved that the matter of house numbering be referred to City Administrator Stevens for his study and recommendation to the City Council. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Secretary of the Civil Service Board advising that employees in certain Departments are required to take time off in lieu of pay whenever they are required

to work overtime, which is a violation of the rules and regulations of the Civil Service Board, as adopted by the City Council; and calling attention to Section I of Rule XIII, which states that overtime worked shall be compensated for by pay in cash at the regular overtime rate of time and one-half. The Civil Service Board asked that the provisions of this Rule be adhered to.

Councilman Powell moved that the communication be referred to the Council as a whole for study and recommendation at the next Regular Meeting. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Bill Richards, 118 Orange Wood, Colton, California, submitting his application, together with references, for the position of City Manager.

Councilman Powell moved that the application be referred to the City Council for consideration, and that Mr. Richards be notified of the action. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read an invitation to attend the public installation of officers of the Loyal Order of Moose No. 785, at Torrance Civic Auditorium on April 29th at 8 p.m.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1900

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING EASEMENT  
DEED FROM DAVID REED AND GEORGE B. REED  
AND AUTHORIZING RECORDING OF SAME.

Councilman Jackson moved that Resolution No. 1900 be adopted. Councilman Haggard seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1901

RESOLUTION ORDERING PUBLICA-  
TION OF NOTICE OF SALE.

Councilman Jackson moved that Resolution No. 1901 be adopted. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented for first reading and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 403

AN ORDINANCE OF INTENTION TO ORDER  
THE VACATION OF A PORTION OF THE  
ALLEY SHOWN AS LOT-A-27 OF BLOCK  
27, TORRANCE TRACT.

Councilman Jackson moved that the further reading of Ordinance No. 403 be dispensed with. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Jackson moved that Ordinance No. 403 be adopted for first reading. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

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A communication was read from City Administrator Stevens submitting the following recommendations for the Council's consideration and approval:

PERSONNEL:

- (1) That Robert P. Slonecker be employed as City Garage Foreman, effective April 21, 1948, at a compensation of \$290.00 per month.
- (2) That Herbert R. Burgess be temporarily employed as a Playground Attendant, effective May 1, 1948, at a compensation of \$211.00 per month.
- (3) That the Civil Service Board be authorized to hold examinations for the position of Account Clerk for the Water Department.

APPROPRIATIONS:

- (1) For the purchase of rock and oil for street maintenance work, the sum of \$300.00.
- (2) For advertising and promotion by the Chamber of Commerce for the month of March, the sum of \$103.00.
- (3) For the purchase of tires and safety tubes for the Police Department, the sum of \$118.86.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- (1) That the Final Map for Tract No. 15213 be approved, and that the omission of the signatures of the parties with interests, as shown on the title sheet for said tract, also be approved.
- (2) That in consideration for the continued and regular rental of the Civic Auditorium for Dances by the V.F.W. Post No. 3251, the rental fee be reduced to \$25.00 per night, with the provision that the Post retain two uniformed Police Officers within the building, continue the regulation of no pass-out privileges and that additional police protection is not required on the outside to curb disorders. Agreement to the above to be signed by officers of the Post.
- (3) That bids be called for the improvement of Cabrillo Avenue between Sepulveda Boulevard and 231st Street, and of Crenshaw Boulevard between 190th Street and 203rd Street.

ZONING:

That the following Petitions for Change of Zone be referred to the Planning Commission for necessary action:

- (1) Case No. 121, Petition of Luther Mumford to change Lots 17 and 32, Tract No. 3458, being on the east side of Hawthorne Avenue between Emerald and Spencer Streets, from A-1 to C-2.
- (2) Case No. 126, Petition of Carl L. Stiles to change Lots 5 and 6, Tract No. 3391, southwest corner of 230th Street and Narbonne Avenue from A-1 to C-2.
- (3) Case No. 127, Petition of Luther Mumford to change Lots 1 and 2, Block 60, Torrance Tract and Lot 14, Block 65, Torrance Tract, being the southeast and northeast corners of Torrance Boulevard and Madrid Avenue from R-3 to C-1.

- (4) Case No. 128, Petition of Hollywood Development Company to change Lots 8 to 18, inclusive, and Lot 21, Tract No. 10300 at Highway 101 and Vista Del Mar, from R-3 to C-2.

#### REMOVAL OF TREES:

That permission be granted to remove trees at the following locations, with the provision that the abutting property owners remove and dispose of same at their own expense:

- (1) Harold R. Irvine, 2761 Andreo Avenue, one pepper tree.
- (2) Omer E. Gwyn, 1225½ Acacia Avenue, one acacia tree.

Councilman Jackson moved that the Council concur in the recommendations of City Administrator Stevens. Councilman Haggard seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey announced that the appointment of committees is in order; that the new council has not had an opportunity to discuss these appointments; therefore, if there are any objections, action thereon can be deferred pending further discussion after adjournment. However, he requested that definite action be taken on appointments to the Finance Committee as there are warrants which should be taken care of at this time. The appointments are as follows:

#### FINANCE

N. O. Drale	J. Hugh Sherfey, Jr. Chairman	A. L. Jackson
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(Alternates: R. L. Haggard and G. C. Powell)

#### PARK AND RECREATION

A. L. Jackson	G. C. Powell Chairman	R. L. Haggard
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#### INSPECTION, AUDITORIUM, TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC LIBRARY

G. C. Powell	R. L. Haggard Chairman	A. L. Jackson
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#### POLICE AND FIRE

J. Hugh Sherfey, Jr.	A. L. Jackson Chairman	R. L. Haggard
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#### STREET, SEWER AND GARBAGE

G. C. Powell	N. O. Drale Chairman	A. L. Jackson
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Councilman Haggard moved that the Council concur in the appointments of the Chairmen and Members of the different Committees. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey announced that the Civil Service Board has called for examinations for the position of patrolman. He stated that residence requirements for employment by the City of Torrance had been under discussion by the old Council, as well as the City Attorney and thought that the Civil Service Board had been advised of this fact. It is his opinion that the Council has the authority to instruct the Civil Service Board to waive residence requirements for applicants desiring to take the examination for patrolman, provided that the successful candidate be required to take up his residence in the City of Torrance.

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City Attorney Smith advised that in August, 1947, upon recommendation of the Civil Service Board, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 392, waiving one year's residence requirements to applicants where the Commission is unable to secure qualified applicants, or where qualified applicants fail to pass their examination, and that this ordinance is still in force and effect.

Mayor Sherfey asked if the City Council has the right to instruct the Civil Service Board to accept applications regardless of the residence requirements and the type of examination called for.

City Attorney Smith replied that the Council is the final arbitrator in the matter, and whether the City Council should make this request is a matter of policy rather than a question of legality.

Councilman Powell stated that unless there is a specific reason for by-passing the ordinance, it is his opinion it should stand as it is.

Councilman Powell asked Chief Stroh if there were enough applicants who could qualify to take the examination.

Chief Stroh explained that at the last examination there were only seven men who were qualified to take the examination; out of the seven there were only three who passed, and out of three, two were not residents of the City of Torrance. He advised that the City of Torrance did not have sufficient eligible young applicants for this position. He explained at length that the City of Los Angeles as well as other cities are having like difficulties, and it is his opinion that residence requirements should be waived for prospective applicants, but when appointed should become residents of the City of Torrance.

Mayor Sherfey asked City Attorney Smith if, in his opinion, the City Council could notify the Torrance Civil Service Board and the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission of its intention to waive residence requirements, and to request the latter not to conduct the examinations on May 7th, but to re-advertise the examination with the desired change.

City Attorney Smith replied that the Council has this right, and he was quite sure that the County Civil Service Commission would follow the Council's wishes in the matter.

City Attorney Smith stated that there is no question that the City has the power under Article 7 of the City Charter to amend or modify, extend or enlarge the provisions relative to the Civil Service System, and that is what the Council has done in one instance.

Mr. Babbitt, Member of the Civil Service Board, stated that upon advice of the City Attorney, the Board had adhered to the residence requirements, as specified in the ordinance, not only for the members of the Police Department, but for all city employees. It is his opinion that this fact should be given more publicity.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Council meet with members of the Civil Service Board and the Chief of Police on May 5, 1948, at 7:30 p.m., at which time the Civil Service Board holds its regular meeting.

Mayor Sherfey asked Mr. Babbitt if it is possible to have a member of the County Civil Service Commission present at the meeting. He replied that Mr. Bradford, Secretary of the Board, could take care of this matter.

Councilman Jackson seconded Councilman Powell's motion which was carried unanimously.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Charles M. Gilbert, 1504 Date Street, made two requests; first, that something be done about the accoustics in the Council Chamber and secondly, that immediate action be taken to place all employees under one Civil Service System.

Yqwan Popovich, 1444 W. 218th Street, Vice-President of the Student Body, Torrance High School, requested the privilege of taking over the administrative duties of the city officials one day next week to be set aside as Boy's Day.

Councilman Haggard moved that this privilege be granted, and that the City Clerk be requested to notify the proper authority at the High School of this action. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Jackson moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 8:30 p.m., upon motion of Councilman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Drale, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned to May 5, 1948 at 7:30 p.m.



CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:



MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE